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AirScoop

104th FIGHTER WING WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL



104th Fighter Wing officer remains calm, helps injured local

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104th Fighter Wing officer remains calm, helps injured local

By Senior Airman Sara Kolinski

On Tuesday, June 13, 2021, Officer Robert Keeler, 104th Security Forces Squadron Installation Security Officer, was out shopping with his wife in Wilbraham, Massachusetts, when they spotted a man who needed help.

“I knew something wasn’t right,” said Keeler. “I didn’t know exactly what it could have been. He had a lot of blood on his face but it was dried. Then when I saw the wound on his leg, I knew it was pretty serious.”

Keeler said that he rolled down his window, and spoke to the man as he called 911.

“He had a gash probably about eight inches on the inside of his leg and knee and I could tell he had lost a lot of blood,” said Keeler.

When the Wilbraham police officer arrived on scene, Keeler, who has been an officer at the 104th Fighter Wing for 15 years, continued to help.

“I got out, identified myself as law enforcement and said that I could help him so he gave me gloves and gauze and I just started opening them up and helped him stuff the wounds until the ambulance got there,” said Keeler. “He was there by himself and I had the training to help because I have first responder training and we have done basic combat lifesaving courses at Barnes.”

Officers and defenders at the 104 SFS go through a multitude of trainings including use of force, fire arms, blood borne pathogen, active shooter training, and other standard law enforcement trainings. Keeler stated that the training he has received working at Barnes has helped prepare him to respond in situations like this.

“People who haven’t had this kind of training maybe would have panicked and drove away, maybe not called 911 and the outcome could have been different for him,” said Keeler. “I didn’t panic.”

Other members of the 104 SFS applauded Keeler’s response to the situation at hand.

“With the responsibility we demand of Officer Keeler on a daily basis as an ISO, it is no surprise to myself or the SFS unit that he used his training in a lifesaving manner,” said Master Sgt. Shane Coakley, Keeler’s day shift flight chief. “Officer Keeler is one of our most experienced members in the entire unit and his lifesaving response on June 13 is not only a credit to himself as a professional at the 104th, but as a person.”

Keeler said that after the wounded individual was loaded into the ambulance, the police officer who arrived on scene approached him and said that it was a good thing he was out shopping or the individual might not have made it.

“I guess when you do this job it’s just kind of expected and you’re kind of always on duty 24/7 so I was just at the right place at the right time. I don’t feel like I did anything special. I helped when I needed to and that’s it.”

Honoring Women's Equality Day

Tech. Sgt. Robert Cyr, Equal Opportunity Specialist

August 26th is Women's Equality Day, a time to honor women's contribution to our society and to celebrate their participation in democracy's most sacred act – the ability to vote. It was on this date 101 years ago that the 19th Amendment was passed, prohibiting states from denying voting rights on the basis of sex.

The fight for woman's suffrage often took the form of small victories that still later turned into defeats. New Jersey originally allowed unmarried or widowed women to vote but later rescinded that right. In Utah, women won the right to vote in 1870 only to see that right revoked in 1883. The Supreme Court ruled against women's suffrage twice. In multiple states, a woman's suffrage referendum made it to the polls – only to be shot down by the slimmest of majorities.

The resilience of activists like Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone, Victoria Woodhull, and countless other organizers across the country started to turn the tide as Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Idaho all passed women's suffrage legislation before the turn of the 20th century - with another 8 states granting full or partial voting rights within the following 20 years. Multiple historians have stated that it was women's contributions during the 1st World War that imparted much of the momentum the movement ultimately experienced – with activists like Carrie Chapman Catt

pointing out the hypocrisy of defending democratic rights in Europe only to deny those same rights to half the population back home. Eventually, all their efforts came to fruition as the 19th amendment was ratified in August of 1920.

In 1972, to commemorate the occasion, President Richard Nixon declared August 26th to be Women's Rights Day – later renamed Woman's Equality Day. In his address he said “The struggle for women's suffrage, however, was only the first step toward full and equal participation of women in our Nation's life. In recent years, we have made other giant strides by attacking sex discrimination through our laws and by paving new avenues to equal economic opportunity for women. Today, in virtually every sector of our society, women are making important contributions to the quality of American life. And yet, much still remains to be done”. His words still ringing with truth in today's society.

As members of the United States Air Force, and as Barnestormers, we owe it to ourselves and each other to continue to fight for these ideals of equality and fairness under the law. All of our voices deserve to be heard as we forge the next generation's fighting force.

Headlines and Highlights

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Welcomes, Farewells, Promotions and Points of Contact

104th Public Affairs Office

Farewells

Tech. Sgt. Cynthia Wilson, MXS

Tech. Sgt. Ashley Sheffield, AMXS

Promotions

Airman 1st Class Alexander Becker, AMXS

Airman 1st Class Dylan Clifford, AMXS

Airman 1st Class Nicholas Moran, MXS

Airman 1st Class Hunter Anderson, SFS

Senior Airman Connor Brady, MXS

Senior Airman Devin Gates, MXS

Senior Airman Liam Keefe, SFS

Senior Airman Kyle Snide, FSS

Senior Airman Ryan Carvalho, FSS

Senior Airman Natalie Fontanez, FSS

Senior Airman Alondra Sanchez, SFS

Senior Airman Joshua Tekpeh, LRS

Senior Airman Ryan Mooney, SFS

Senior Airman Camille Lienau, FWHQ/PA

Senior Airman Thomas Desrochers, MXS

Senior Airman Sarah Quigley, MXS

Staff Sgt. Robert Allen, AMXS

Staff Sgt. Daniel Hamlet, SFS

Staff Sgt. Samantha Dame, MXS

Staff Sgt. Douglas Mentuck, MXS

Staff Sgt. Michael Scuderi, MXS

Staff Sgt. Rachel Kingsley, MXS

Staff Sgt. Grant Brown, OSF

Staff Sgt. Werner Adams, MXS

Staff Sgt. Selena Torobrown, AMXS

Staff Sgt. London Brown, MDG

Staff Sgt. Sara Kolinski, FWHQ/PA

Tech. Sgt. Howard Passley, LRS

Tech. Sgt. Jacob Martinez, MXS

Tech. Sgt. Whitney Greaney, OSF

Tech. Sgt. Matthew Nuzzo, MXS

Master Sgt. Shane Coakley, SFS

Master Sgt. Patrick Obrien, SFS

Master Sgt. Sandy Singleton, SFS

Master Sgt. Barry Walter, OSF

Master Sgt. Christopher Krutka, SFS

Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Torres, SFS

Wellness Center Points of Contact

Our professionals in the Wellness Center can help you with a wide range of issues.

Capt. Tra'Vorus Weaver, Chaplain, tra_vorus.weaver@us.af.mil

Lisa Potito, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager, lisa.potito@us.af.mil

Amanda Winslow, Airman & Family Readiness Specialist, amanda.winslow@us.af.mil

Michelle Pennington, Director of Psychological Health, michelle.pennington.1@us.af.mil

Mary Keeler, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, mary.keeler.2@us.af.mil

Melanie Casineau, Yellow Ribbon Coordinator, melanie.casineau.1.ctr@us.af.mil

Roger Greenwood, Personal Financial Counselor, pfc.westover.usafr@zeiders.com

Recruiters

If you want to learn about a career with the 104th Fighter Wing call one of our recruiters to learn more about serving in the Air National Guard, and the benefits you can receive, including 100% tuition and fee waiver.

Recruiting Office Supervisor, Master Sgt. Glendaennis Schuster (413) 237-0427

Retention Office Manager, Tech. Sgt. Bento Fernandes, (413) 636-2291

Worcester Area Recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Brian Whitman, (413) 237-4525

Western Mass Recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Ernest Smith (413) 237-0982

Western Mass Recruiter, Tech Sgt. Kayla Gallagher (413) 207-5186

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